



City of Loma Linda Official Report

Floyd Petersen, Mayor
Stan Brauer, Mayor pro tempore
Robert Christman, Councilmember
Robert Ziprick, Councilmember
Charles Umeda, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA: July 26, 2005

TO: City Council

VIA: Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

FROM: Hector Guerra, Lieutenant
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
W. James Hettrick
Director of Information Systems
Jarb Thaipejr
Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Request scheduling of Public Hearing to discuss implementation of
a Red Light Photo Enforcement Program

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Mayor and City Council set a Public Hearing for August 23, 2005 to discuss the as part of the traffic safety and enforcement program within the City of Loma Linda. The setting of this Public Hearing is in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 21455.6 which requires that a City Council conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed use of automated enforcement systems prior to that City entering into a contract for the use of those systems

BACKGROUND

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department in conjunction with the Information Systems Department and the Public Works Department have been investigating the feasibility of utilizing a Red Light Photo Enforcement Program within the City and the installation of traffic signal cameras at selected intersections within the City. The use of such cameras, and resulting traffic citations, would help promote traffic safety and would expand the traffic enforcement efforts within the City. This program would require no direct funding by the City.

Research by the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) indicates that there are more than 1.8 million intersection crashes annually, and, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, red light running is the leading cause of urban traffic collisions.

One of the most effective, proven, and cost effective methods to address red light violations is by the use of red light photo enforcement. Currently over 50 cities in the State of California are utilizing these camera enforcement programs. An independent study of red light programs currently supported by Redflex, indicates that red light violations decreased as much as 80% at intersections where camera enforcement was in operation and there was a reduction of up to 60% in collisions.

Other studies indicate that in many jurisdictions where red light photo enforcement is in effect, there is a decrease in both violations and accidents not only at those locations with cameras, but citywide. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety has labeled this phenomenon the “spill over effect.” In general, when motorists are aware that the jurisdiction utilizes red light photo enforcement, they tend to be more cognizant of their overall driving.